1. *A Letter from* Mr. F. A. *Eſq*; *R. S. S. to the Publiſher, with a Paper of Mr.* S. Flowers *containing the Exact Draughts of ſeveral unknown Characters, taken from the Ruines at* Perſepolis.

S I R,

I Here ſend you ſome Fragments of Papers put into my hands by a very good Friend, relating to antique and obſcure Inſcriptions, which were retrieved after the Death of Mr. *Flower*, Agent in *Perſia* for our *Eaſt-India* Company; who, while he was a Merchant at *Aleppo*, had taken up a Reſolution to procure ſome Draught or Repreſentation of the admired Ruines at *Chilmenar*, purſuant to the third Enquiry for *Perſia*, mention'd in the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, pag. 420. *viz. Whether there being already good Deſcriptions in Words of the Excellent Pictures and* Baſſe Relieves *that are about* Perſepolis *at* Chilmenar, *yet none very particular, ſome may not be found ſufficiently skilled in thoſe parts, that might be engaged to make a Draught of the Place, and the Stories their pictur'd and carved.* This Deſire of the Royal Society, as I believe, it hinted at a Summary Delineation, which might be perform'd by a Man qualify'd in a few days, taking his own opportunity for the avoiding much Expence, (which you know they are never able to bear:) So I cannot but think Mr. *Flower* conceived it to be a buſineſs much eaſier to perform then he found it upon the place, where he ſpent a great deal of Time and Money, and dying ſuddainly after, left his Draughts and Papers diſperſed in ſeveral hands, one part whereof you have here, the reſt its hoped may in ſome time be recovered, if Sir *John Chardin's* *din*'s exact and accurate Publication of the entire Work do not put a period to all further Curioſity, which I heartily wiſh.

An Exact Draught or Copy of the ſeveral Characters engraven in Marble at the Mountains of Noctureſtand *and* Chahelminar *in* Perſia, *as they were taken in* November 1667. *By Mr.* S. Flower.

N 1. *N* 2. Theſe two Characters are engraven on the Breaſt of two Horſes cut out of the Mountain of Black Marble at *Noctureſtand*, diſtant a League from *Chabelmanare*, or the ancient *Perſepolis*, one whereof is ſaid to be *Alexander*'s, the other *Ruſtram*'s, (a Famous Hero ſuppoſed to have lived about the time of *Cambyſes.*) Mr. *Fl.*

N 1. This Character hath ſome Similitude with the Ancient Hebrew, but the *Perſians* would have it their own, tho' they underſtand not a Letter. Mr. *F.*

N 2. In theſe Lines the places are prickt where the Letters were defaced and not perceptible. Mr. *F.*

N 4. Theſe two Lines were writ entire on *Ruſtram*'s Horſe. Mr. *F.*

N 3. This is the (*Arabick*) *Perſian* Character engraven at *Perſepolis* not above 500 years ſince, and 'is little different from the Writing us'd at this day. Mr. *F.*

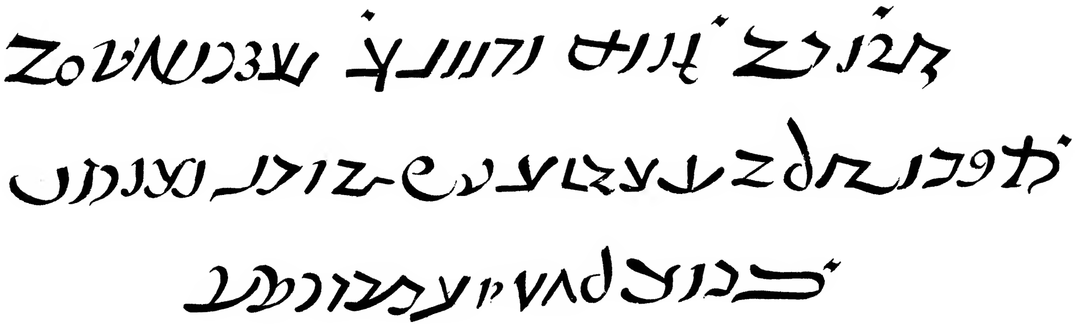
N 5. This Character, whether it be the ancient Writing of the *Gaures* or *Gabres*, or a kind of *Teleſmes* is found only at *Perſepolis*, being a part of what is there engraven in white Marble, and is by no Man in *Perſia* legible or underſtood at this Day.

A Learned Jeſuit Father, who deceaſed three years ſince, affirmed this Character to be known and uſed in *Ægypt*. Mr. *F.*

It ſeems written from the Left Hand to the Right, and to conſiſt of Pyramids, diverſly poſited, but not joyned together. As to the Quantity of the Inſcriptions, *Herbert* reckon'd in one large Table Twenty Lines of a prodigious Breadth. Of this ſort here are diſtinct Papers, each of ſeveral Lines.

N 6. This Character is likewiſe engraved at *Perſepolis*, of like Antiquity with the former. It has ſome Affinity with the *Syriack* and *Arabick*, and has been pretended to be underſtood by ſome of the *Padres*. Mr. *F.*

1



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ΘΕΟϒΑΡΖΑ . . . . . . CΙΑωCΒΑCΙΛΕωΝ

ΑΡΙΑΝωΝ . . . . CΘCωΝϒΙΟΥ

ΘΕΟϒΠΑΠΑ . . ϒΒΑ . . ΕωC . .

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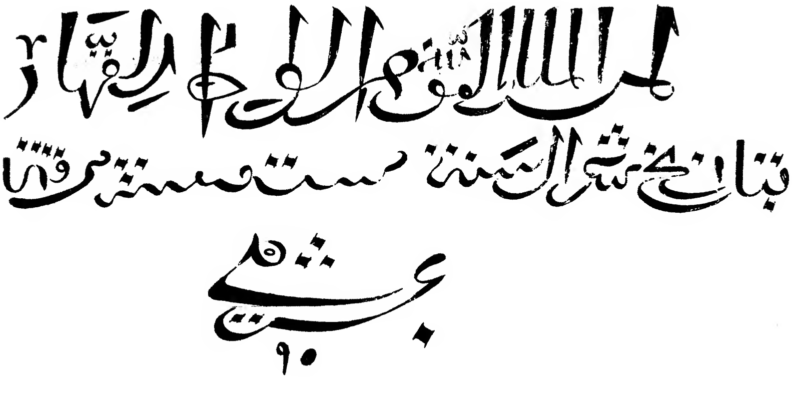

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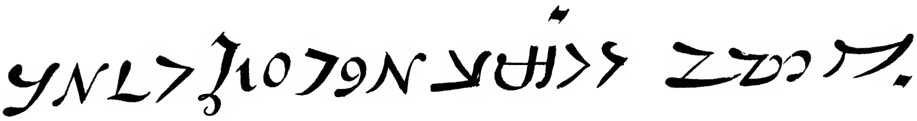

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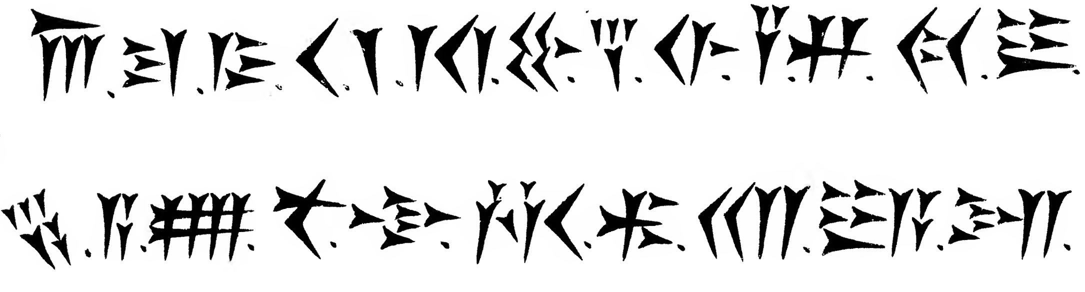

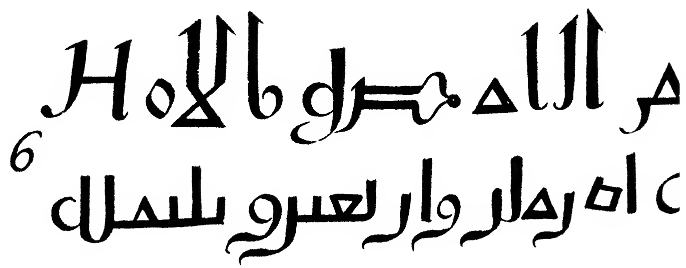

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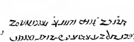

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ΑΡΙΑΝωΝ . . . CΘCωΝΥΙΟΥ
ΘΕΟΥΠΑΠΑ ΥΒΑ . ΕωC . .

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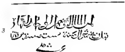

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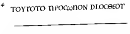

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